

OUTGOING MESSAGE

COMINT

Approved For Release 2002/01/14 : CIA-RDP78S01932A000100020022-2

CHANNELS

SIGNAL CENTER USE ONLY

PAGE

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OF

PAGES

SCM 0 0 0 0 0 0

CLASSIFICATION

CONFIDENTIAL

CIA/OCT

CITE

WHIZ

MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

740208

MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR

DATE-TIME GROUP

CIA/HSS

SOURCE REF:

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1		4		7		10	
2		5		8		11	
3		6		9		12	

TO: IMMEDIATE WHITE HOUSE//SITUATION ROOM FOR MR. MCNAMIS.

STATE RCI//OPERATIONS CENTER MR. FRY, NMCC//ATTENTION

25X1

A

WARNING NOTICE SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS

INVOLVED

ITEM NO: 3

DATE: 8 FEB 74

SUBJECT: GOVERNMENT CHANGES IN UPPER VOLTA

25X1

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REF: [REDACTED]

PRESIDENT LAMIZANA ABRUPTLY BANNED ALL POLITICAL ACTIVITY, DISMISSED HIS CABINET AND THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, AND SUSPENDED THE CONSTITUTION. CITING THE NECESSITY OF ENDING THE POLITICAL FACTIONALISM THAT HAS PLAGUED HIS GOVERNMENT IN RECENT WEEKS, HE STATED HE WILL SOON FORM A NEW CABINET OF MILITARY OFFICERS AND CIVILIANS.

THIS MOVE BY LAMIZANA IS NOT ENTIRELY UNEXPECTED, AND IT HAS BEEN CLEAR FOR SOME TIME THAT HE MIGHT CHOOSE THIS WAY OF ENDING THE CURRENT POLITICAL SQUABBLING THAT HAS BEEN BUILDING IN RECENT WEEKS. LAMIZANA, HIMSELF AN ARMY OFFICER WHO SEIZED POWER

DATE:

ORIG:

UNIT:

EXT:

RELEASING OFFICER

COORDINATING OFFICERS

AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

CLASSIFICATION

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IMPDET

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IN 1966, IS PARTLY TO BLAME FOR THE DISARRAY. HE RECENTLY HAD REAFFIRMED HIS INTENTION TO STEP DOWN BEFORE THE SCHEDULED PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IN DECEMBER AND STRONGLY HINTED THAT THE PRESENT MIXED MILITARY-CIVILIAN REGIME SHOULD GIVE WAY TO A PURELY CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT. REPORTING FROM UPPER VOLTA HAS INDICATED THAT THE PRESIDENT MIGHT CONTRIVE SOME WAY TO REMAIN IN POWER, EITHER AS AN OFFICER OR AS A CIVILIAN, BUT THE POLITICIANS APPARENTLY TOOK HIM AT HIS WORD AND WERE JOCKEYING FOR POSITION. LAMIZANA MAY HAVE DECIDED TO MOVE NOW BEFORE SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM ARRIVED FOR A VISIT LATER THIS MONTH TO DISCUSS FAMINE RELIEF.

NO CHANGES ARE EXPECTED IN UPPER VOLTA'S PRO-WESTERN FOREIGN POLICY. THE COUNTRY HAS BEEN SERIOUSLY HURT BY THE DROUGHT IN WEST AFRICA AND DEPENDS HEAVILY ON WESTERN COUNTRIES FOR FAMINE RELIEF. E-2 IMPDET.

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4 SPECIAL DISTRIBUTION: NEA DIV AND NIO [REDACTED]

3
2
1

DATE: 3 FEB 74
ORIG: [REDACTED] / [REDACTED]
UNIT: CIA OPERATIONS CTR
EXT: [REDACTED]

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